## **REMARKS**

The specification has been amended to reference the parent application. The claims have been amended to such that they are focused on a blood circuit that continuously withdraws blood from a patient, temporarily ceases the withdrawal of blood and later automatically restarts the withdrawal of blood. A temporary cessation of blood withdrawal blood flow and later automatic resumption of withdrawal blood flow is novel and non-obvious.

All claims are in good condition for allowance. If any small matter remains outstanding, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

Jeffry H. Nelson Reg. No. 30,481

JHN:glf

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor

Arlington, VA 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100